

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

The Commission, on its own motion, to determine the surcharge for the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

) Application No. 911-002
)
) ORDER SETTING SURCHARGE
)
) Entered: October 7, 2003

BY THE COMMISSION:

This docket was opened on August 12, 2003, in order for the Commission to determine the annual surcharge for the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund (Fund), pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-458. The Commission held a hearing in this matter on September 22, 2003, in the Commission Hearing Room, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Ms. Kara Thielen, Director of the Enhanced Wireless 911 Department, testified regarding the surcharge level and the status of the Fund. Ms. Thielen stated the current fund balance was approximately \$6.9 million as of September 2, 2003. She further testified that during last fiscal year (2002-2003), the Fund paid a total of \$2,052,666.53, and has paid \$285,795.77 in the current fiscal year.

Ms. Thielen indicated that the Commission has approved funding for Phase I wireless enhanced 911 service for a total of 29 public safety answering points and 11 wireless carriers. She testified that Phase II costs for wireless carriers are currently projected to be approximately \$9.9 million for non-recurring charges, and approximately \$343,961.21 for monthly recurring charges, but she cautioned that such charges are estimated and not actually known at this time. She further testified that total Phase II costs are estimated to be as much as \$15 million for statewide implementation.

Ms. Thielen stated that the surcharge, currently set at fifty cents per wireless access line per month, should remain at fifty cents.

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

The Commission finds that the surcharge should be set at fifty cents per wireless access line per month. Given the projected costs of Phase II, the surcharge should remain at its current level, which is the maximum amount permitted under the Enhanced Wireless 911 Services Act.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the surcharge for the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund should be set at fifty cents per wireless access line, per month.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 7th day of October, 2003.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Director